DC

63

CATWOMAN™

HOWARD
DI GIANDOMENICO
GANDINI

NINE LIVES
PART 5

D.NA
11.23

DEEP BLUE SEA-LINA!

13+
TEEN

DAWN OF DC

CAN THE DARK KNIGHT DELIVER JUSTICE TO A WORLD GONE MAD?

BATMAN
DARK AGE

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Six 48-page issues starting in **MARCH**

An era-spanning epic from
MARK RUSSELL
and
MICHAEL ALLRED
The Eisner Award-nominated team of
Superman: Space Age

MOSHI MOSHI.

MEOW MEOW. YOU IN THE SUIT?

I'M IN A SUIT.

WHAT IF A CAT NEEDS RESCUING FROM A TREE? OR A PARTICULARLY JUICY RUBY IS UNATTENDED?

"TOMCAT'S PROWLING THE STREETS!

HOW MANY *MANY* SO FAR, SELINA?

HM?

HOW MANY TIMES HAVE YOU *DIED?*

AND WHAT IS *GOING ON* WITH THIS?

...DID I LOSE YOU?

FOUR SINCE I LEFT. FIVE TOTAL.

I'M ON TRACK, SO LONG AS I DON'T GET *AHEAD* OF MYSELF.

YOU KNOW YOU CAN STOP AT *ANY* TIME AND COME HOME.

YOU'LL SPEND THOSE LIVES JUST TRYING TO *GET OLD* IN GOTHAM CITY.

THAT'S NOT WHY SHE GAVE ME THIS GIFT, EIKO.

SHE?

...SELINA, WHO'S *SHE?*

I'll leave **her** hanging this time.

Besides, I'm not exactly sure how to answer that question yet.

Despite everything I've seen in my time on this earth, I don't know that I'm ready to commit to the attention of a **god.**

This whole thing has been a bit...**spiritual.**

But these are matters of life and death, most of these missions of mine.

This one, unfortunately... I wouldn't feel right if I quit now.

The score is more than cash--a man's **life** is at stake.

But don't worry, kittens-- the money's great too.

CATWOMAN
NINE LIVES PART 5

TINI HOWARD STORY
CARMINE DI GIANDOMENICO ARTIST
VERONICA GANDINI COLORS
LUCAS GATTONI LETTERS
DAVID NAKAYAMA COVER
INHYUK LEE, RACHTA LIN, AND JORGE FORNÉS VARIANT COVERS
SOZOMAIKA WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH VARIANT COVER
LEIRIX 1:25 VARIANT COVER
DAVID NAKAYAMA 1:50 VARIANT COVER
JAMES REID ASSISTANT EDITOR
ARIANNA TURTURRO EDITOR
BEN ABERNATHY GROUP EDITOR

It's still me.

The man in question: **Justice Jordan,** a really **on-the-nose** name for the world's premier documentary filmmaker.

...but he **walks** the walk and **earns** it.

Every few years, he releases footage from a place he shouldn't have been able to get out of alive, and wins an award.

Kindred spirit, I guess.

Well, eventually he had to get footage from the one place no one else **could.**

A nation so hostile to its outsiders most of us can't even **breathe** there.

His next film was expected to come out a few **years** ago, but Justice has been quiet ever since. Sources suppose he's been in the editing bay.

But I've had the truth in my files for some time-- Justice **never came back.**

If he's lucky, he's alive somewhere **here--** in this old Tritonian guard outpost, half abandoned and lost to time.

And if he's **not,** that's a shame...but somewhere on this ocean floor is the most **long-awaited movie in the world.**

An **absolutely life-threatening** dive to make. I've been training in breath-holding for years. But now...

...I can spare a life on the score.

Justice thought he could do what no one else had done-- see Tritonis and report back.

The Tritonians are notoriously unfriendly, but **quiet.** Uncontacted for **years.**

Known for **killing** anyone who gets too close.

WHOOSH!

No use fighting these guards--throwing a punch underwater feels like a **bad dream.**

They can hide, but I bet they can't **seek.**

And while the rest of this place might be their home, **this** is curiously modern.

And to them, I'll bet it's **unfamiliar.**

I don't imagine the **mermen** were the ones building an **air lock,** after all.

Someone else has set up inside the **shell** of Tritonis. Someone with **legs,** who breathes **air.**

So if Justice **is** in there, getting to him isn't what I'm most afraid of.

It'll be getting him out.

WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO MOVE HIM.

MOVE ME WHERE? WHERE ELSE AM I GONNA BREATHE?

SHUT UP.

WHACK!

VICEROY. CAN'T ADVISE PRISONER MOVEMENT WITH THE CURRENT SITREP.

REPORTS SUGGEST ONE INTRUDER. I SUGGEST WE NEUTRALIZE BEFORE PROCEEDING. MOVING THE PRISONER MAKES HIM HIGHLY VULNERABLE TO INTERFERENCE FROM OUTSIDE SOURCES.

KASPAR, THAT'S THAT MEATHEAD MILITARY TRAINING OF YOURS AGAIN.

WE OPERATE FOR N.E.M.O., AND YOU ANSWER TO *ME.* THIS IS *MY* MISSION, AND *MY* RULES.

EITHER THEY'RE JUST SOME FOOLISH FREE DIVER WHO GOT TOO CLOSE AND DOESN'T CARE...

OR THEY'RE HERE FOR THE DIRECTOR, WHICH MEANS...

WE'LL DRAW THEM OUT. *EXCELLENT, VICEROY.*

WHAT ARE YOU DOING-- THIS THING IS GONNA *KILL* ME, IT'S JUST MADE OF *ROCK!*

YOU'RE LUCKY TO BE ALIVE AT *ALL, JORDAN.*

This **Veronica Viceroy** *has set up in here with her N.E.M.O.* cell--like* **bone worms** *feeding on a* **festering whale.**

**NAUTICAL ENFORCEMENT OF MACROCOSMIC ORDER! THEY USED TO TUSSLE WITH AQUAMAN BACK IN THE DAY. --AQUATIC ARIANNA*

The remaining Tritonians, however, **still live here.**

Colonized by Viceroy's cell, which appears to be enslaving them and using them for their Atlantean powers.

Justice *hasn't been in an international prison--he's been held by* **terrorists** *trying to* **use him as a bargaining chip.**

The Tritonians **have** *to allow N.E.M.O. to keep Justice, or Viceroy will send his film right to the surface, exposing Tritonis to the land-dwellers.*

So I'll rebel **on the Tritonians' behalf.**

PAFF

TINK!

One good hit knocks the whole thing off course.

WHAT THE HELL?!

SWOOSH

SWOOSH

People don't give Aquaman enough credit.

NGH--!

Fighting underwater is not easy.

I can't exactly **explain** whose side I'm on.

Options are limited.

ZZZRWW

WHAM!

USELESS IDIOT PRIMITIVE *MERMEN!* CAN'T OUTSWIM A BLOODY *THIEF* IN A *CAT COSTUME!*

N.E.M.O., GET TO THE PERIMETER AND BRING SOME *REAL WEAPONS!* AND BRING ME CATWOMAN'S CORPSE!

THIS #@%$%$@# DIRECTOR IS *MORE TROUBLE THAN HE'S WORTH.*

SHOOM SHOOM

AGAIN, VICEROY!

MAKE SURE THEY'RE ALL DEAD! THE DIRECTOR, THE CATWOMAN, AND THE *TRITONIANS THAT FAILED YOU!*

Of course they wouldn't give him his own air.

What better way to keep your captive from running away?

I can't tell him to slow down.

The way he's breathing, if I take it away, he'll suck in water and drown.

If I don't take it back from him and get some air soon, I'll drown.

The nitrogen is bubbling in my veins, and it aches--

BLOOD--

--he needs his life more than I need an extra.

HACK KHOFF HACK HUNGH HURK...

UNGH... OH MY GOD.

OH GOD, THE LAND, OH GOD THANK YOU...

...CATWOMAN?!

OH NO
OH NO, CATWOMAN!
SHE'S *DEAD.* THE *OXYGEN,*
I SHOULDA GIVEN
IT *BACK--*

COUGH!

CATWOMAN!

HOLY...HOLY #@%&!

YOU WERE *DEAD!* THERE WAS NOTHING IN YOUR EYES OR ANYTHING, NO PULSE--

COUGH COUGH COUGH... SPLASH!

WELL-- COUGH-- I'M--COUGH-- HERE NOW.

NONE OF THIS MAKES ANY SENSE-- I DIDN'T THINK *ANYONE* WOULD SAVE ME. I STARTED *THINKING* HARD ENOUGH FOR *SUPERMAN* TO HEAR, BUT THAT VICEROY CHICK USES ALL THE WEIRD WATER MAGIC-- I THINK EVEN MY *THOUGHTS* ARE BLOCKED!

...YOU'RE WELCOME.

...WHERE... WHERE IS IT?

WHAT?

MY *MOVIE?!*

YOU... *CAN'T* BE SERIOUS.

I ALMOST DIED *EVERY DAY* DOWN THERE AND THE ONLY THING THAT GOT ME THROUGH IT WAS THINKING ABOUT *THIS FILM!* ABOUT WHAT IT WOULD DO FOR THE *WORLD,* FOR MY *CAREER!*

WE HAVE TO GO BACK FOR IT!

...

DECOMPRESSION SICKNESS CAN MAKE YOU SAY *CRAZY* THINGS. I AM GOING TO GO BACK TO CAMP AND BUILD A FIRE.

YOU SHOULD JOIN ME.

PLEASE!

...WHILE I'M STILL FEELING *SOCIAL.*

I HAVE TO ASK... HOW DID YOU FIRST HEAR ABOUT ME? ARE YOU... A *FAN?*

WE'VE MET BEFORE.

I--

YOU WOULDN'T REMEMBER. *SECRET IDENTITY.*

I KEPT MY EYE ON YOU. I WON'T LIE, IT WASN'T FOR NOBLE REASONS. I WAS TRYING TO GET CLOSE TO YOUR PRODUCER AND *WEALTHY PATRON--*

"BARTHOLOMEW JORDAN--"

"MY FATHER."

YOU WOULDN'T BE THE FIRST WOMAN TO TRY TO GET CLOSE TO HIS MONEY. HE'S A TERRIBLE HUSBAND.

HONEY, I DON'T NEED TO *MARRY* A MAN TO GET TO HIS MONEY. BUT YOU'RE SWEET TO WORRY FOR ME.

SO WHY ARE YOU SAVING ME?

GONNA RANSOM ME OFF TO MY FAMILY? MAKE ME RECORD A TAPE YOU CAN SELL TO THE *DAILY PLANET?*

THE TRUTH IS, I CAME LOOKING FOR THE *MOVIE* MORE THAN I CAME LOOKING FOR YOU.

...THEN GO BACK AND *GET* IT FOR ME! YOU'RE THE BEST THIEF IN THE WORLD, RIGHT!?

I'LL CUT YOU IN ON THE PROFITS! I'LL MAKE YOU A *PRODUCER!*

...I THOUGHT ABOUT THAT. BUT THEN I REMEMBERED THE KIND OF MONEY I *DON'T* NEED--

--MONEY MADE OFF THE BACKS OF PEOPLE WHO AREN'T GETTING A *CUT.*

I'LL CUT THE TRITONIANS IN TOO! WHATEVER YOU WANT, THEY'RE PRACTICALLY HEROES NOW!

AS YOUR *PRODUCER,* I GET *CREATIVE* INPUT. YOU CAN MAKE WHATEVER YOU WANT, BUT YOU'D BETTER PROTECT THE PRIVACY OF THE TRITONIANS WHO *LIVE* THERE.

HOW'M I GONNA MAKE THE MOVIE OF MY CAPTURE AND GREAT ESCAPE WITHOUT THEM?!

YOU'LL FIGURE IT OUT IN THE EDITING BAY.

SO YOU'RE COMING WITH, THEN. I WON'T HAVE TIME DOWN THERE TO *SCRUB THROUGH RAW FOOTAGE.*

THERE'S AN EXTRA WET SUIT BUT WE'LL HAVE TO SHARE BREATHING EQUIPMENT.

ZIIIP

AND *WHATEVER* MOVIE YOU MAKE? I *STILL* EXPECT MY *CUT.*

YEAH, WE'RE GONNA DO IT! WE'RE GONNA MAKE A MOVIE!

GOODNIGHT, JUSTICE.

I DON'T KNOW WHERE THEY KEPT MY EQUIPMENT, BUT I KNOW THEY DIDN'T DESTROY IT.

"IT'S POSSIBLE THAT THEY FILMED OVER WHAT I SHOT, BUT THAT'S EVEN BETTER--THE MORE EVIDENCE OF N.E.M.O. THE BETTER, RIGHT?

YOU KNOW, AFTER SLEEPING ON IT, I FEEL LIKE THIS IS THE CREATIVE PIVOT THE FILM REALLY NEEDS.

SAVE YOUR OXYGEN, PLEASE.

THIS IS THE ONLY PLACE I EVER SAW ANYTHING GO IN OR OUT--**HERE**, WHERE THAT POD LEFT.

BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT TURNS IT ON OR OFF.

WHUMM

SEE?! THEY KNOW I'M HERE TO HELP!

WHY IS THAT AIRLOCK OPENING!? TRITONIS SLAVE TROOPS ARE TO REMAIN OUTDOORS--

JUSTICE, GO-- FIND YOUR MOVIE!

SLASH!

YOU'RE THE THIEF!

CAN YOU FIGHT?!

GOOD POINT--YOU DISTRACT THEM!

AAAH!

KRAK

GIVE ME THIS.

@#$%.

These breathers are bio-coded, useless on anyone else.

WHAP

@#$%, INDEED!

YOU'RE EVERY BIT THE POTTY-MOUTHED STRAY I'D HEARD ABOUT: TOO LOW-CLASS TO HELP HERSELF WHEN SHE SEES A DIAMOND!

DON'T RUN!

I THINK YOU COULD DO BETTER THAN STEALING--WHAT--INDEPENDENT FILM DIRECTORS?

HE **DIED**, ANYWAY, IF HE'S WHAT YOU'RE HERE LOOKING FOR. BLOWN TO HELL BY A TORPEDO.

WHAM

THOUGHT YOU WERE, TOO, IF I'M BEING HONEST.

I DID. BUT I'M POWERED BY **STRONGER STUFF** THAN YOU.

WHACK

KILL HE--!

STOMP

WHACK

UNGH!

UHHH, CATWOMAN?

I THINK SOMEONE ELSE IS TAKING OUT THE N.E.M.O. TROOPS...

OH GOD. THE SHRIEKERS.

NOT AGAIN.

PLEASE DON'T SCREAM AND KILL ME THROUGH THE GLASS--I'M JUST GETTING MY MOVIE OUT OF THE HANDS OF THE BAD PEOPLE WHO WANT TO HURT YOU--

I GOT IT, I GOT IT. I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S STILL GOOD, BUT I HAVE MY CAMERA.

THEN GET THE HELL **OUT OF THERE** AND LET THEM **CHASE** YOU--

--I'M GONNA BLOW THIS BASE STARTING AT THE BRIDGE, AND I CAN'T PROMISE THE DEPRESSURIZATION FORCE WON'T BREAK YOUR **SPINE** DOWN HERE.

CHYOOM CHYOOM CHYOOM

SHE TOOK YOUR WEAPON?!

KASPAR, TIGHTEN YOUR REBREATHER--

SSSSHHHWWWW--

--AND GET US OUT OF HERE.

SHWOOM

The force hits me like a **tidal wave.**

I feel my spine slide apart.

I NEVER LIKED THE *WATER.*

IT CAN BE GREAT. NEVER BEEN TO THE FRENCH RIVIERA?

THERE IS NOWHERE I HAVE NOT STOOD.

SO THAT'S... SIX TIMES NOW.

I'M STARTING TO THINK I'M SQUANDERING YOUR GIFT. SHOULD I JUST... GO HOME?

MAYBE SPEND ONE OF THESE LIVES WITH SOMEONE WHO *DESERVES* IT.

PTAH!

SO THAT'S A NO?

PTAH IS A LOVER OF BASTET.

GOD OF JUSTICE. SWEET AS IT WOULD BE TO GO HOME NOW, TO HIS CITY--

YOU WON'T GET THE CHANCE. THE HUNT HAS *BEGUN.* THE PREDATOR *CAT* IS NOW *PREY.*

HSSS... WATER...

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

...DID YOU PULL ME OUT OF THE WATER?!

...WELL... I'D LIKE TO THANK WHOEVER DID...

COUGH COUGH-- APOLOGIES, THE WET CLIMATE DOESN'T AGREE WITH ME ANYMORE.

THOSE OF YOU WHO DON'T KNOW ME, MY NAME IS VERONICA VICEROY. CERTAIN COWARDS LIKE TO CALL ME THE *SEA WASP.* THIS IS MY ASSOCIATE, KASPAR.

YES, I KNOW YOU... STAR OF THAT *NEW POPULAR DOCUMENTARY,* YES?

I'LL ASK THE QUESTIONS, TO START, FLAMINGO.

MEET SANTA ESPADA, OF COLOMBIA.

THIS IS EDUARDO FLAMINGO, CITIZEN OF THE WORLD.

HOLA.

MY QUESTION IS--

--WHO *ELSE* IS HAVING PROBLEMS WITH CATWOMAN?

NEXT: PREPARE FOR TAKEOFF!

OUR HOUSE. NO RULES.

DC

DAWN OF DC

SHAZAM!

#10

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JOIN WRITER JOSIE CAMPBELL
AND ARTIST EMANUELA LUPACCHINO
FOR A NEW STORY THAT HITS HOME!

COVER BY DAN MORA

APRIL

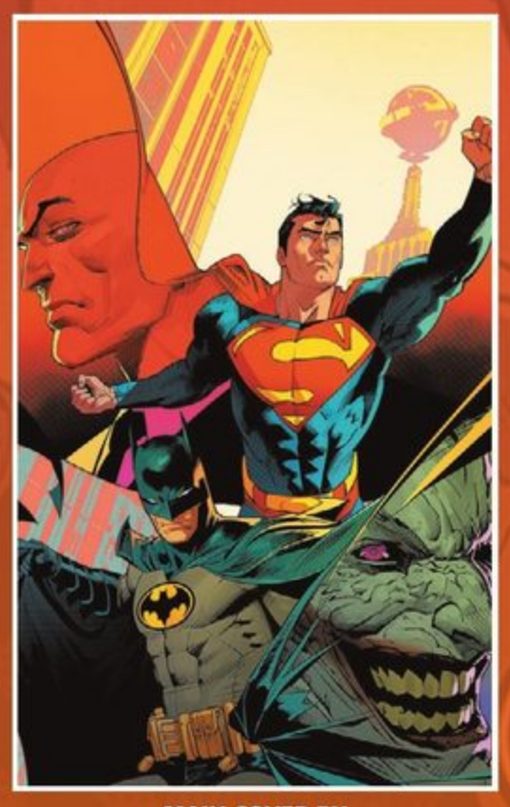
DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

BATMAN • SUPERMAN WORLD'S FINEST #25

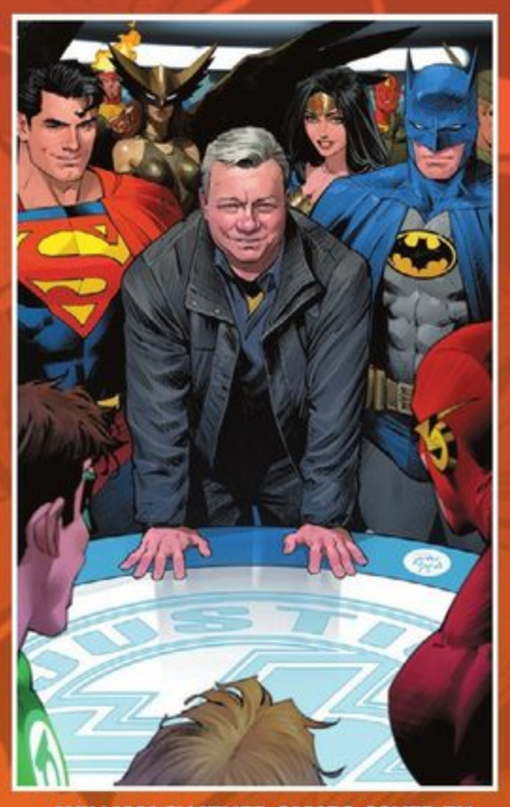
Batman/Superman: World's Finest, the acclaimed series that comicbook.com calls "the gold standard at DC Comics," has taken the World's Greatest Heroes on exciting and Earth-bending adventures since its debut in 2022.

This March, join the Dark Knight and the Man of Steel for *Batman/Superman: World's Finest* #25, a can't-miss oversize anniversary issue from series writer Mark Waid and artists Dan Mora and Steve Pugh that will answer burning questions like: What happens when businessman Lex Luthor turns one of his ventures into an unholy alliance with The Joker? And what happens when the Batcave's T. rex comes to life and our heroes must team up with none other than...Abraham Lincoln?

In addition to these exciting stories, legendary actor and pop culture icon William Shatner cameos on a special variant cover by Dan Mora!



MAIN COVER BY
DAN MORA



WILLIAM SHATNER CAMEO COVER BY
DAN MORA

DON'T MISS BATMAN/SUPERMAN: WORLD'S FINEST #25, ON SALE IN MARCH!

Here's a sneak peek at some artwork from the story "Impossible: Prologue":

ART NOT FINAL

ART NOT FINAL

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Empire
Gooba Daddy